



News Release

Fishlake National Forest



For Immediate Release

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Spring Prescribed Burns Planned for Beaver Ranger District

Beaver, Utah- The Fishlake National Forest, and Beaver Ranger District Fire and Fuels personnel are currently planning to implement several prescribed fire projects. The **Baker/Face Prescribed Burn Project and The Merchant Valley Mixed Conifer Prescribed Burn Project** starting **April 14th, 2014 through June 1st, 2014**. The projects will only be implemented within parameters that meet specific management objectives these parameters include but are not limited to temperature, wind speed and direction, soil moisture, fuel moisture and the State Department of Air Quality standard of a clearing index of 500 plus. The fuels project will be conducted in a manner consistent with land and resource management plans, public health considerations (smoke issues), and the approved prescribed fire plan.

The Baker/Face Prescribed Burn Project, which is approximately 5 miles up Beaver Canyon in the Baker Canyon area, and is approximately 9,481 acres. The fuel types consist of a variety of vegetation including: Pinyon-Juinper, Gambel Oak, curlleaf mountain-mahogany, mixed conifer and aspen, and Wyoming Big Sage with intermittent grasses.

The Merchant Valley Prescribed Burn project, which is approximately 10 miles up Beaver Canyon in the Merchant Valley Area is approximately 3000 acres and consists of Mixed Conifer and Aspen fuel types. Both projects are located in Beaver County, Utah.

The objective for both projects is to remove the fuel loadings in the areas thus reducing the existing wildland fire hazards and reducing potential negative effects from future wildland fire to both agency and adjacent private lands while restoring fire-adaptive ecosystems. The planned treatment methods will consist of the application of prescribed fire to create a mosaic pattern of burned and unburned vegetation. These are multi-year projects and the entire area will not be treated at one time. The desire is to treat patches of 500 to 1000 acres at a time, creating a diverse age class of vegetation.

To provide for the safety of the public and fire personnel, temporary travel restrictions may be in place on roads and trails in the project area during burning operations.

In an effort to reduce the impact to the public, attempts will be made to avoid ignition on any federal holiday weekend, although residual smoke and fire personnel may be present at those times.

For further information and links about prescribed fire, wildland fire and reducing wildfire risks to your property please visit <http://www.utahfireinfo.gov>.

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